Information for Travelers and Residents
Warden Message U.S. Embassy Belmopan, Belize
October 26, 2010
Dangerous Animal Escaped near Belize Zoo following Hurricane RichardStill Loose

The U.S. Embassy in Belmopan is issuing this Warden Message to alert Americans that there has been an incident near the Belize Zoo involving a jaguar fatally attacking a person. The Belize Police Department is responding; however, the animal has not yet been recaptured. The Belizean Police have confirmed the jaguar escaped from its cage. All other animals at the Belize Zoo have been accounted for.

We recommend U.S. Citizens avoid the area surrounding the zoo and stay away from forest areas for the time being. We also suggest American Citizens monitor local radio and television stations for official updates. Additional media reports may be found at Channel 5 News Belize (http://www.channel5belize.com/), Channel 7 News Belize (http://www.7newsbelize.com/), and the Belize Tourism Industry Association (http://btia.org/).

We encourage U.S. citizens living or traveling abroad to register with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate through the State Department's travel registration website at https://travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs/ui/ so that they can obtain updated information on travel and security. Americans without Internet access may register in person with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate. By registering, American citizens make it easier for the Embassy to contact them in case of emergency.

For emergencies involving American citizens in Belize, please contact U.S. Embassy Belmopan. The U.S. Embassy is located in Belmopan City on Floral Park Road, telephone from the United States: 011-501-822-4011; telephone from within Belize: 822-4011 or after working hours at 610-5030. You may also contact the Embassy by e-mail at: ACSbelize@state.gov. The Embassy's Internet address is http://www.belize.usembassy.gov/.